

TBKCID Second Public Meeting Minutes

Location: German International School

Date 20th February 2025

IN ATTENDANCE

SIGCID SteerCo: Bevis Hoets (Chair)

Trip Allport

Simon Campbell-Young

Johan le Roux Peter de Jong

Tim Harris (apologies)

Murray von Hirschberg (apologies)

CID Branch, CCT: Joepie Joubert

David-John Michael-Steyn

CID Central Services: Helen Snell

AGENDA

Welcome
Update on progress
Feedback received
Recap of Business plan
Budget & finance
Next steps
Questions

Welcome: TBKCID Chair Bevis Hoets (BH) welcomed attendees and opened the meeting. BH reminded the audience this was the second meeting following the first held in Dec 2024 where the proposed CID was first introduced. He explained this meeting would be much shorter as all the detail presented at the first meeting would not be repeated but was all available on the TBK CID website.

Recap of CID process: BH once again outlined the proposed geographic area of the CID, explained the definition of a CID, the key steps to establishing a CID, the motivations for doing so and the key focus areas for CIDs.

Update on progress: It was stated that this second public meeting was the next formal step following the 30-business day feedback period which ensued after the first public meeting. A key focus for this meeting is presenting the feedback received during that period. With the conclusion of this meeting, the formal consent/object phase commences but further feedback can still be submitted.

Feedback: Eight formal pieces of feedback were received. All focussed on different topics. BH summarised the feedback received and responses thereto. In summary, given the limited amount of feedback and diversity of all the feedback, the Steering Committee concluded that changes were not required to the draft business plan which is now being presented as the final business plan.

Budget & Finance: BH recapped the proposed five-year business plan and budget on a headline level. He explained how this budget translated to a cost of R133.88 (VAT incl) per R1m of municipal property value for properties within the area in the first year.

Next Steps: BH explained there is still a further 30-day period for feedback to be submitted which concludes on 24th March but that the consent object phase now commences. BH explained the various methods via which votes can be cast all of which would be shared via email, WhatsApp and Facebook. Assuming the threshold of 60% votes in support is achieved, then an application can be made to Council to establish the CID.

QUESTIONS

Q: What reassurances can be given regarding the risk of racial profiling happening as a result of the establishment of a more extensive CCTV network?

A: BH clarified that all installed cameras would only be in public spaces and would only monitor public spaces. Joepie Joubert (JJ, CID Branch, CCT) added that the CCTV network would need to be registered with CCT in accordance with its CCTV policy and that this would eradicate any privacy concerns. Helen Snell (HS, CID Central Services) added that cameras are not manually monitored but rather by software which triggers alerts when motion is detected within a certain zone being monitored by a camera. Only then does the controller in the control room view the alert and determine whether the alert is a genuine threat (response dispatched) or a false alarm.

Q: How can residents be sure that CCT, with its own budget under ever-increasing pressure, won't steadily push more of the responsibility for services onto the CID? **A**: JJ acknowledged the pressure on CCT's budget, particularly given the influx of people into the Western Cape, but stated that one of the CID's roles is to hold the municipality accountable for the services it is responsible for delivering and, if necessary, the community must ensure the CID does so by close liaison with the councillor. The model has proven successful so far.

Q: Please expand on the structure. Can the entity borrow money? Can it own assets? What is the intention in this regard particularly with respect to cameras?

A: BH confirmed that the NPC can most definitely own assets and in theory could enter into a credit arrangement which one could imagine might be necessary in order to roll out a camera network swiftly in insufficient capex was available in the first year. TBKCID, however, is planning a blended model of leased and owned cameras with the new cameras required in the early days being leased and cameras required to replace those in the existing network when they reach the end of their useful life, being bought.

Qs: Several audience members questioned the rationale for drawing the geographic boundary to exclude the lower section of Tamboerskloof where the density of sectional title is much greater. Concerns were raised that those living in the lower area would benefit from the efforts of the CID without paying for it and whether the Steering Committee had engaged sufficiently with the owners and body corporates of the various apartment blocks.

A: The Steering Committee reiterated several times, as had been stated in the presentation, that extensive efforts had been made to establish what appetite there was from the various apartment blocks to potential be included in a CID and the response was consistently negative given many owners either don't actually live in the property but rent it out and thus are less invested in the local area, or owners are less concerned about safety and beautification of public spaces around them given they live in a block or they may be first time owners or elderly and thus more sensitive to additional costs. This inevitably will create a scenario where some will benefit from the efforts of the CID but not contribute to it financially. But given the additional time which would be required to engage with the substantially larger number of owners in the lower section of Tamboerskloof, and being motivated to establish the CID as quickly as possible given worsening crime trends, the Steering Committee to carve out an area where it believed a CID could achieve the sufficient support without delay. Thereafter, the hope would be that the success of the CID might encourage the rest of Tamboerskloof to seek to expand the boundaries.

Q: What is the process for expanding the boundaries of a CID?

A: David-John Michael-Steyn explained that the process is relatively easy in that a Steering Committee needs to be formed comprising property owners from the area that wishes to join. This committee needs to collaborate with the board of the existing CID. A separate business plan and budget needs to be drawn up for the new area which then follows the same process TBKCID is currently going through. If sufficient support is gathered in the new area, then the boundaries are expanded but the business plans and budgets would always remain ring-fenced from each other.

Q: Would the Steering Committee be supportive of efforts to uplift Poyser Park in a similar way to the improvements made to St Michael's Road Park in collaboration with community volunteers and potentially local schoolchildren?

A: The Steering Committee confirmed it was absolutely in agreement

Q: What constraints are there on budget increases? Can the Board or even CCT arbitrarily increase the budget?

A: HS explained that the budget for each year of the five-year term is fixed and cannot be changed once established. The amount each property owner pays per R1m of municipal property value will change each year and will vary from changes in the overall CID budget and also in a year when municipal properties are revalued. In year one, the additional CID rate is capped at no more than 25% of the basic rates charged.

Q: Who are the Steering Committee? Why are there no women or non-whites on the committee? Is traffic a concern?

A: BH explained that the Steering Committee is comprised of those people who have come forward to proactively try to improve the area. The door is always open to others who might wish to join but by the time the CID ambition was initiated with CCT, only the core seven members were involved. Subsequently others have come forward including one woman. While the official Steering Committee is now formed, others who want to be involved are always welcome. Traffic is a concern, particularly around the German School and while it is more an issue for the school itself to resolve, if residents are concerned they can engage with the Steering Committee.

Q: What proportion of the public safety budget will be allocated to the mountainside and what proportion to the interior? What proportion to daytime security and what proportion to night?

A: BH answered that it was not as entirely straight forward a split as the question implied and if the lady would like to send an email, more detail could be provided

Q: What option do we have other than to adopt a CID? We could complain that CCT should do more but we need to face the reality of our situation.

A: Steering Committee concurred

The chair closed the meeting at 19.52.